

REMARKS

The abstract and specification on pages 1, 3, 4 and 5 have been amended to describe that the present invention also applies to absorbent articles other than diapers, such as feminine hygiene articles. The basis for this change can be found on page 5, lines 19-25 and pages 6 and 7 of the specification.

Claims 9 and 12-27 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-8 and 9-10 have been amended to claim a feminine hygiene garment. The support for this amendment can be found on page 5, lines 19-25.

Claims 28- 34 have been added.

Claim 28 recites a feminine hygiene garment comprising a liquid impervious backsheet; a liquid pervious topsheet joined to said backsheet, said topsheet having an inner surface oriented toward the interior of said article and an outer surface oriented toward the skin of the wearer when said article is being worn, wherein at least a portion of said topsheet outer surface comprises an effective amount of a lotion coating which is semi-solid or solid at 20°C and which is partially transferable to the wearer's skin; and an absorbent core positioned between said topsheet and said backsheet; wherein the lotion is applied to the liquid pervious topsheet in a nonuniform pattern; said non-uniform pattern is selected from the group consisting of stripes, droplets, dots or mixtures thereof. Support for this amendment can be found on page 26, line 1 to page 28, line 29.

Claim 29 recites the feminine hygiene garment of Claim 28 wherein the nonuniform pattern is comprised of applying said lotion to the topsheet in the form of a plurality of stripes that are separated by a plurality of stripes having no lotion. Support for this amendment can be found on page 27, line 24 to 30.

Claim 30 recites that the feminine hygiene garment of Claim 28 wherein the non-uniform pattern comprises different amounts of the lotion at different locations of the topsheet. Support for this amendment can be found on page 26, line 1 to page 28, line 29.

Claim 31 recites that the feminine hygiene garment of Claim 28 wherein the non-uniform pattern comprises macroscopic regions where no lotion is applied. Claim 32 recites that the feminine hygiene garment of Claim 28 wherein the non-uniform pattern comprises microscopic regions where no lotion is applied. Support for this amendment can be found on page 26, line 24 to line 34.

Claim 33 recites a feminine hygiene garment comprising a liquid impervious backsheet; a liquid pervious topsheet joined to said backsheet, said topsheet having an inner surface oriented toward the interior of said article and an outer surface oriented toward the skin of the wearer when said article is being worn, wherein at least a portion of said topsheet outer surface comprises an effective amount of a lotion coating which is semi-solid or solid at 20°C and which is partially transferable to the wearer's skin; and an absorbent core positioned between said topsheet and said backsheet; wherein the lotion is applied to the liquid pervious topsheet in a nonuniform pattern comprising printed droplets. Support for this amendment can be found on page 26, line 1 to page 28, line 29.

Claim 34 recites that the feminine hygiene garment of Claim 28 wherein the non-uniform pattern comprises microscopic regions where no lotion is applied. Claim 35 recites that the feminine hygiene garment of Claim 28 wherein the non-uniform pattern is selected from the group comprising stripes, droplets, dots, or mixtures thereof. Support for this amendment can be found on page 26, line 24 to line 34.

It is believed these changes do not involve any introduction of new matter. Consequently, entry of these changes is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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ABSTRACT

An article containing a liquid pervious topsheet coated with a lotion composition is disclosed. The lotion composition applied to the article in a nonuniform manner, preferably such there are regions on the article's topsheet that are not coated with lotion.